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## LANDGRAVE THOMAS SMITH'S VISIT TO BOSTON

Contributed by EDWARD LEODORE SMITH of Boston,  
Massachusetts.

In the Warrants for Lands in the Province of South Carolina, 1680-1692, 166 is recorded a warrant for 650 acres of land to be laid out to Mr. Thomas Smith for the arrival of himself, and wife Barbara, sons Thomas and George Smith, Matthew Crosse, Philip Adams, Joan Atkins, Johanna Atkins, Elizabeth Adams, Aron Atkins, Ellen and Mary Atkins and Michael Peirce. Dated 10 July, 1684.<sup>1</sup>

In respect to the name of Philip Adams, above, a mistake may have been made by the recorder, and it may be fairly inferred that instead of Philip, it was Phillis Adams who was meant.

What was the occasion of Landgrave Thomas Smith's voyage to New England? Can it be true, after all, that the statements of "The Octogenarian Lady,"<sup>2</sup> so flouted by some, had a real base of substantially true tradition?

President John Adams, whose wife was of the Charlestown, Mass., family of Smith, stated that she was connected with the family of Landgrave Thomas Smith of Carolina. And it is a matter of record in our Middlesex County Register of Deeds that a Carolina Smith quit claimed his interest in property of his grandparents, of Charlestown, Mass., to an uncle there.

In working among the files of the Supreme Judicial Court, now in Court Files of Suffolk County, some time ago, I discovered the following papers.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Smith and his family arrived in South Carolina earlier in the year 1684 than July 10, as the following abstract shows.

Indenture 20 June 1684; Benjamin Waring of Warrington ffort near the ponds, Berkeley County, merchant, to Joan Atkins of Berkeley county, Charles Town, widow; 1600 acres of land near the Ponds and ffort called Warrington fort. . . being measures out to the said Waring by right of himself and family.

Thomas Smith, Barbara Smith, and Robert Hull witnesses.

Recorded June 21, 1684 (Office Hist. Commission of S. C. Misc. Records, unbound vol. page 117.)

<sup>2</sup> *The Olden Times in Carolina*, page 17-18.

(Court Files Suffolk No. 37394)

[South] Carolina }  
Coun Berks } ss.

George Smith of Charlestown in Berkeley County in the Province of South Carolina Esq<sup>r</sup> Son of Landgrave Thomas Smith late of the Same place Esq<sup>r</sup> Deced being duely Sworn maketh Oath that in or About the year of our Lord one Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty four to the Best of this Dep<sup>ts</sup> Remembrance this Dep<sup>ts</sup> Father the Said Landgrave Smith Transported himself and family from Dartmouth in Great Britain into this Province that in this Dep<sup>ts</sup> Fathers Family was at that time two Servant Maids Named to the best of this Dep<sup>ts</sup> Remembrance and belief Phillis and Elizabeth Adams that in about a Twelve months After their Arrival in this Province the S<sup>d</sup> Dep<sup>ts</sup> Father together with his family went to Boston in New England carrying the Said Phillis and Elizabeth Adams with Him and that in Boston the said Phillis Adams was marryed to one Will<sup>m</sup> Arnold that Some time after this Dep<sup>t</sup> Returned to Carolina where he afterwards to the best of his Remembrance Saw the Said William Arnold & Phillis his wife they having also Returned to this Province from New England And further this Dep<sup>t</sup> Saith not

Geo: Smith.

Sworn before me the Words Dart-  
mouth in between the Seventh &  
eight line being First interlined this }  
12<sup>th</sup> June 1735

A True Copy Exam<sup>d</sup>

C<sup>as</sup> Pinckney, J. P.

Byfield Lyde Cler<sup>''</sup>

South Carolina }  
Coun Berks }

John Sheppard of Charles Town in Berkeley County in the Province Aforesaid Merch<sup>t</sup> being duely Sworn Saith that About four years ago he was at Boston in New England and there Lodged at one M<sup>rs</sup> Flints in or about Queen Street over against the Prison and that Whilst he Loged there one M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Duncan of the said town of Boston Widow came to this Depon<sup>ts</sup> Said Lodging and enquired of Him whether he knew or had heard of one Phillis Arnold in Carolina and (Cancelled) at the Same time informed this

Dep<sup>t</sup> that the Reason of Her inquiry was [because] that the said Arnold was her nearest Relation She had in the World and to whom She intended to leave the Greatest part of What she had in the World and in Discourse the Said Elizabeth Duncan informed this Dep<sup>t</sup> that She had one Sister many Years before came over to Boston Servants to Landgrave Thomas Smith and that in Boston her Said Sister married one Arnold And Afterward with her Said Husband returned from Boston & Settled in Carolina upon which Discourse this Dep<sup>t</sup> informed the Said Elizabeth Duncan that he was not possitive Whether any Such Person as She inquired about was then Living in Carolina but when he returned he would enquire and Send her word and this Dep<sup>t</sup> fur[ther] Saith that at his return to this Province he made [.....] for the Arnolds and was informed that old M<sup>rs</sup> Arnold the Sister of the Said Elizabeth Duncan was dead and had left only two daughters to Say Lidia Arnold & Elizabeth Arnold and not any other issue and this [Dep<sup>t</sup>] further Saith that he very well knew and was acquaint[ed] with the Said Lydia Arnold who being a Widow mar[ryed] with one John Arnold<sup>3</sup> of Charlestown Shop keeper now de[ad] And Which Said Lydia Arnold is Also dead without Issue as this Dep<sup>t</sup> is informed & verily believes and this Dep<sup>t</sup> further Saith that he also knew Elizabeth Arnold the Other Sister Who is now Living in Charlestown being a Widow Woman having been Married to John Freeman (since Deceased) And this Dep<sup>t</sup> further Saith when he had Returned into this Province as Aforesaid & found out upon enquiry the said Elizabeth Freeman he wrote word to the said M<sup>rs</sup> Duncan informing her thereof & that the Said M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Freeman was the only surviving Relation of the said M<sup>rs</sup> Arnold the Elder in this Province (excepting the Children of the Said Elizabeth Freemans being three in Number) And this Dep<sup>t</sup> further Saith that Some time after he had wrote and acquainted M<sup>rs</sup> Duncan with the Circumstances of her Sister Arnolds Family as Aforesaid he Received a letter from the Said M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Duncan dated in Boston wherein She thanked this Dep<sup>t</sup> for the trouble he had taken in the Said Affair and acquainted him that She had by

<sup>3</sup> John Arnold and Lidia Reynolds married Nov. 18, 1723; Mrs. Lydia Arnold buried Jan. 6, 1726/7 (St. Philip's Register).

Notes by the Editor.

that conveyance Sent a present of two Cheeses and a Barrel of flower to her niece the said Elizabeth Freeman and desired this Dep<sup>t</sup> to take the trouble of conveying the same to her which this Dep<sup>t</sup> did and this Dep<sup>t</sup> further Saith that to the best of this Dep<sup>ts</sup> Remembrance M<sup>rs</sup> Flint his Land lady in Boston and her Daur M<sup>rs</sup> Richards Wife of Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards of Boston were in Company with this Dep<sup>t</sup> when the Said Elizabeth Duncan made the enquiry about her Sister Arnold as Aforesaid and further This Dep<sup>t</sup> Saith not

John Sheppard.

[Sworn] before me this 13th June 1735

[Cas] Pinkney J. P.

A True Copy Exam<sup>d</sup>

Byfield Lyde Cler<sup>y</sup>

The Boston records of Births, Marriages and Deaths give only the information below. I have been unable to find any further information of this family.

Lydia,	of Wm. and Phillis	Arnold, b. Apr. 22, 1688
Joseph,	“ “	Phillippi Arnald, b. Oct. 2, 1691
Elizabeth,	“ “	Phillis Arnell, b. Aug. 19, 1694
“	“ “	“ Arnold d. Sept. 8, 1694
“	“ “	“ Arnel b. Feb. 4, 1695.

After this latest date the family removed, it is evident to Charleston, South Carolina.

As to Elizabeth Adams the same records show only her second marriage.

Alexander Duncan and Eliza. Turnerr were married by Mr. Miles July 6, 1698.

In the Registry of Probate for Suffolk Co. are the wills of Alexander Duncan, and of his widow Elizabeth Duncan. Among the papers in the settlement of Alexander Duncan's estate is a petition from his widow asking for an accounting, as the executors had included in the estate, the estate of her former husband, Matthew Turner. In order to redeem the said estate, administration on the goods of Matthew Turner, Joyner, deceased, was granted March 23, 1715, to Elizabeth Duncan, late Turner, widow, of Boston, his relict.

Matthew Turner was rated for a tax in Boston in 1692. After which I have no knowledge of him.

Elizabeth Turner, widow, is rated in Boston for a tax in 1698. Probably in March. And on July 6, same year, she married Alexander Duncan.

Alexander Duncan's will is dated Jan. 26, 1712. He gave his wife Elizabeth all of his estate after his executors should pay to his "Honored Mother Margaret Sands £40." "Loving sister Anna Duncan £20." "Brother William Duncan £40." [All of South Queen's Ferry, Great Britain.]

Elizabeth Duncan of Boston, widow, made her will Oct. 6, 1733. Inventory dated November 6, 1733; she mentions the ministers of the old Church in Boston, Thomas Foxcroft and Charles Chancey each to have £10 in bills of public credit; to Mrs. Rebecca Bass £10; to her executor Mr. John Bassett £20; the rest of her estate to "two of my nearest kindred by blood descended from my family named Adams in Dorsetshire in Great Britain."